

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGUI 00595 020005Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 /014 W
-----020013Z 020202 /66

R 011056Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BANGUI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8457
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
CO MSG BTN WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGUI 0595

NAIROBI FOR RMO

LAGOS FOR RSO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, MSG
SUBJECT: CONSEC MARINES

REF: STATE 70273; LAGOS 3541

1. POST CONCURS WITH ANALYSIS PARA 1 LAGOS 3541. WE
CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT MACE WILL PROVIDE ADEQUATE PRO-
TECTION FOR THE MSG'S, SINCE WE CANNOT ENVISAGE A SITUATION
IN WHICH THEY WOULD HAVE TO USE WEAPONS AT A CONSTRUCTION
SITE. FORMAL GOCAE APPROVAL FOR THEM TO CARRY WEAPONS WOULD
PROBABLY REQUIRE THE PERSONAL, WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION OF THE
EMPEROR, WHICH WULD IN ALL PROBABILITY NOT BE FORTHCOMING.
AS FAR AS WE ARE AWARE, NO EMBASSY INCLUDING OUR OWN HAS
ARMED GUARDS. CENTRAL AFRICANS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO HAVE
WEAPONS AND EVEN DIPLOMATS NOT ROUTINELY PERMITTED HUNTING
RIFLES. IT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY WEAPONS AT THE
CONSTRUCTION SITE WITHOUT IT BECOMING KNOWN AND THE
GOVERNMENT WOULD CERTAINLY NOT WISH TO SET PRECEDENT OF
ALLOWING PUBLIC CARRYING OF ARMS BY FOREIGNERS.

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2. BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE WE HAVE NOTIFIED THE GOCAE OF THE
ANTICIPATED ARRIVAL OF THE SEABEES AND OF THE FOUR MSG'S
WHOSE NAMES WE HAVE. (ROBETT J. MILLER, MAURICE E. LEVISTER
TOM BOVILLE AND PAUL B. LYSKO). WE HAVE IDENTIFIED THEM ALL
WITHOUT RANK AS CONSTRUCTION SECURITY PERSONNEL WHO WILL BE
ASSIGNED TO BANGUI ON TEMPORARY DUTY FOR APPROXIMATELY THREE

MONTHS TO PROVIDE SECURITY AT OUR CONSTRUCTION SITE. HOST
GOVERNMENT DOES NOT NORMALLY GIVE CONCURRENCE TO ASSIGNMENT OF
OTHER PERMANENT OR TDY PERSONNEL. WE BELIEVE NOTIFICATION IS
SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE IN PRACTICE NECESSARY IMMUNITIES, SINCE
THIS IS PROCEDURE WE HAVE USED WITH EMBASSY STAFF IN THE PAST
WITHOUT PROBLEM.
QUAINTON

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BANGUI00595
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770113-0864
Format: TEL
From: BANGUI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197703103/aaaadmyu.tel
Line Count: 69
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 575788ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 STATE 70273, 77 LAGOS 3541
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2945711
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSECR MARINES
TAGS: ASEC, MSG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/575788ac-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009